# Council Proceedings.

*COUNCIL CHAMBER, December 1, 1884.*

The City Council met in the Council Chamber. Present—Mayor Hyman (in the chair), Ald. Birrell, Hunt, O'Meara, Beattie, Cowan, Skinner, Hewitt, Stringer, Niven, Becher, Scarrow.

Minutes of last meeting read and signed.

### COMMUNICATIONS READ.

From Webster Bros. — Appealing against assessment on Fullerton Terrace. No. 1.

From W. Crittle—Appealing against assessment of dog tax. No. 1.

From Mrs. Kernohan—Asking for reduction of taxes. No. 1.

From W. Watson—Appealing against assessment on income. No. 1.

From Jane Adams—Asking for remission of taxes. No. 1.

From T. E. Johnson—Asking for remission of taxes, on the ground that he is a clergyman. No. 1.

From John Turnbull—Asking for a remission of the income tax of the late Andrew Turnbull. No. 1

From Mary Crosbie—Asking for reduction of taxes. No. 1.

From Sarah Leonard—Asking for remission of her husband's taxes. No. 1.

From Thomas H. Galpin—Asking for remission of income tax. No. 1.

From Evans Bros., for remission of income tax; Alex. Gunn, W. R. Thompson, W. F. Bullen for the remission of watering tax; J. W. Thorpe, remission of statue labor tax; Margaret Vircent, remission of taxes; T. W. Harrison, remission of dog tax; T. P. Blackwell, for remission of personal property tax; J. H. Bilton, claiming exemption for 100 feet on Wellington street for sewer rate; A. Wallace, remission of sewer rate on two houses on Waterloo street. Referred to Committee No. 1.

From George Quinton and other ratepayers—Petitioning for a sewer on Grey street, between Clarence and Wellington. No. 2.

By Ald. Hunt, chairman:

1—*Re* the petition of the London Base Ball Club recommended that one-half the amount of the license fee be refunded.

2—That the petition of W. Waugh Lauder be granted.

3—That the application of T. Fox and W. Jenkins for pawnbrokers' license be granted, and that by-laws legalizing the same be prepared.

The report was adopted, and the by law to authorize the licensing of T. Fox and W. Jenkins was passed.

### NO. 2 COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Hewitt, chairman:—

1—That the sewer on Clarence and Gray streets petitioned for by D. Regan *et al* be advertised in the usual way.

2—That all parties be prohibited from cleaning ice or snow from the stone flag sidewalks by the use of axes or other sharp instruments.

3—That the council grant the sum of $250 from the relief fund to take out stone from the city pit for breaking.

On motion, the report was taken up clause by clause.

Clause 1 passed.

On clause 2,

Ald. Hewitt moved the adoption of the clause. Ald. Scarrow seconded.

The chairman explained, in answer to an enquiry from Ald. Birrell, that ashes or sawdust might be sprinkled over the sidewalk.

In amendment, Ald. Skinner moved that the restriction apply to all sidewalks in the city. Ald. Stringer seconded.

The amendment was carried.

On clause 3,

Ald. Birrell said if the money was to be taken from the relief fund he would be glad to favor it, but if it was to be taken from the general funds he wished to inform them that there was no money.

Mayor Hyman said the committee had no doubt carefully looked at the relief fund before taking this action. He reminded them that as he understood the matter the relief fund was not in the hands of the Council but under control of the Mayor.

Ald. O'Meara believed that by opening up the pit work would be given to the poor men and a great saving effected to the city.

Ald. Stringer thought the only way to get over the difficulty would be by giving the street commissioner instructions to expend the money on necessary repairs.

Ald. Becher said the trouble was No. 2 had exceeded their estimates. He did not believe in exceeding the estimates, and although he regretted to do so he must oppose the clause.

Ald. Scarrow thought the Council might grant the amount.

Ald. O'Meara again spoke in defence of the workingmen.

Mayor Hyman said that as he had told them before the motion was out of order, for they could not use the relief fund. He might say that he had only a small balance on hand, and there were the demands of the widows, orphans and other poor people upon him. However, if a motion were passed to allow No. 2 to overdraw their estimate he would not object.

Ald. Hunt moved that No. 2 Committee be allowed to overdraw their account to the extent of $200. Ald. O'Meara seconded.

The amendment was carried, and the report was adopted.

### NO. ONE COMMITTEE REPORT.

1.—Your Committee having examined the following accounts, and, finding them correct, recommend the same for payment:—

NO. ONE COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Court House and Jail* | | $424 61 |
| *Incidental expense—* | | |
| Disbursements by Mayor | $ 4 50— | |
| Deputation to Ottawa | 118 90— | 123 40 |
| *Coroners' Inquests—* | | |
| Dr. Waugh | $ 10 00 | |
| Dr. Hutchinson | 10 00— | 20 00 |
| *Debenture Account—* | | |
| E. H. Kordes | | 36 00 |
| *Stationery—* | | |
| E. H. Kordes | | 17 60 |
| | | $ 621 01 |

NO. TWO COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Bridges—* | | |
| Ferguson Bros | | $ 28 82 |
| *City Parks—* | | |
| G. Campbell | $ 163 54 | |
| J. Wright & Co | 18 47 | |
| | | 182 01 |
| *City Hall—* | | |
| Pay sheet | $ 4 38 | |
| W. H. Heard & Co | 14 86 | |
| J. Wright & Co | 85 | |
| | | 20 09 |
| *Streets, etc.—* | | |
| Pay sheet | 36 87 | |
| J. Wright & Co | 53 68 | |
| | | 90 55 |
| *City Pounds—* | | |
| J. Wright & Co | | 30 |
| | | $ 321 78 |

NO. 3 COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Market—* | | |
| Pay sheet | $ 2 25 | |
| J. Wright & Co | 1 30— | $ 3 55 |
| *Board of Health—* | | |
| E. H. Kordes | | 23 25 |
| *Relief—* | | |
| Tytler & Bullen | 26 00 | |
| G. McNeil | 178 85— | $ 204 85 |
| Total | | $1,174 34 |

2—That the petition of Fred. Barnard, *re* assessment, be referred to the Court of Revision.

3—That the petition of Rosa Gerraty, for remission of 1884 taxes, amounting to $5, be granted.

4—That the petition of Robert Logan, for reduction of assessment, be filed, the Court of Revision having sustained the assessment.

5—Your Committee regret to have to report no funds in reference to the petition of James Marshall, for a grant to the colored band.

6—Your Committee beg to report progress in the petition of J. B. Laing, and others, *re* removal of powder magazine.

7—That the petition of James Piper, for remission of income tax, be filed.

8—Your Committee beg to report progress in the petitions of D. McPhail and D. Lavine, *re* income tax; Mrs. Starr, remission of taxes; David Carter, *re* remission of dog tax, and H. Diprose, *re* remission of sewer rate.

9—Your Committee beg to recommend that clauses B and C in the by-law *re* sale of Exhibition Grounds be struck out, and only submit to the ratepayers the simple question: Shall the Exhibition Grounds be sold?

10—That the City Solicitor be instructed to make application to the Legislature for an act to borrow the necessary funds required to sell the present and purchase other grounds for exhibition and military purposes, if required.

11—Your Committee beg to report progress on the resolution of Ald. Scarrow, *re* Salvation Army appeals, having referred the matter to the Mayor and City Solicitor.

12—Your Committee beg to submit a by-law extending the time of the loan from the Bank of Montreal.

On motion the report was taken up, clause by clause.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3, passed.

On clause 4,

Ald. Hunt moved that the prayer of the petition be granted. Ald. Stringer seconded.

Ald. Becher said the matter had come before the Court of Revision, when Mr. Logan had the opportunity of bringing witnesses, but did not do so, and now the Council had no power. He raised the point of order.

Mayor Hyman ruled the clause out of order.

Clauses 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, adopted.

On clause 12, the by-law to authorize the extension of the time for borrowing of $180,000 from the Bank of Montreal was read a first, second, and third time and passed, and the clause was adopted.

The by-law for submitting to the ratepayers, the three questions was read a third time.

Ald. Becher moved that the by-law be finally passed. Ald. Birrell seconded.

In amendment Ald. Cowan moved that clauses B and C be struck out, and that the question be submitted simply, shall the Exhibition Grounds be sold? Ald. Scarrow seconded. Carried.

It was decided that the vote be taken on the same day and at the same places as for the municipal elections, one scrutineer at each place, to be appointed by his Worship, for and one against the by-law.

The by-law passed.

### THE SPARRING EXHIBITION.

Ald. Scarrow moved that in future the use of the City Hall be not given for sparring exhibitions, and that the motion passed at last meeting granting it for such a purpose be rescinded. Ald. Stringer seconded.

A petition was read from several of the city clergy asking that the use of the hall be not granted for such purposes. It alluded to the manner in which the Chief Justice at the late assizes had referred to the great prevalence of crime in the county, and the petitioners expressed their opinion that these exhibitions of the manly art largely contribute to these crimes, and asked that the hall be not granted.

A deputation composed of Rev. Messrs. Ryckman, Grant and Hunter spoke in support of the motion and petition. Aldermen Scarrow and Stringer also supported it.

Yeas—Birrell, Hunt, O'Meara, Cowan, Skinner, Stringer, Scarrow—7.

Nays—Beattie, Hewitt, Niven, Becher —4.

### BY-LAWS PASSED.

The by-law for the appointment of polling places and deputy returning officers for the municipal elections was read a first, second and third time, and finally passed.

A by-law for taking the votes of the ratepayers on the question of putting an end to the rights, powers and privileges of the Water Commissioners—the vote to be taken at the same time and place as for the municipal elections, and appointing deputy returning officers and poll clerks for taking the vote—the duties of the Commissioners, in the event of the by-law being passed, to cease on the 1st of May next—was read a first and second time.

On the motion for third reading,

In amendment, Ald. Beattie moved that the by-law be given a twelve months hoist.

Ald. Beattie said he had found a good many citizens opposed to the proposed by-law, as they thought it would not be in the interest of the city should the commissioners be dispensed with.

Ald. Niven seconded the amendment.

Ald, Scarrow was surprised at the course of Ald. Beattie. The by-law was brought in on the score of economy, and he believed on the score of economy it would be passed by the people.

Ald. Skinner believed the change would be an economy, and that the people should be allowed to pronounce upon the matter.

Mayor Hyman then left the chair, which was taken by Ald. Birrell.

Mayor Hyman thought the Council were acting rashly in this matter. He had said nothing at last meeting as to what was said then. Certain charges were made—of course the Aldermen making these blandly prefaced them with the remark that they had nothing to say against the present Board of Commissioners, but that was all nonsense. The charges had been made that the Commissioners had improperly and extravagantly carried on the management of the Water-works, and it had been said that they spent $4,500 that could be saved. Well, they paid the Secretary $1,200 and an assistant and the engineer, whom they would need anyhow. The Inspector they could not do without --in fact he thought it would be better if they had two. It was all very well for the Aldermen sitting here to talk, but they knew what a feeling there had always been between the Council and the School Board and other departments, and this feeling was largely engendered by the nonsensical remarks made in the Council. He himself at the beginning of the year was open to the charge that he thought the Council should have a larger representation on the Board of Police Commissioners, but since he had been on that Board and saw how matters were conducted, he felt that it would be an injury if the Council should have the larger representation. He was of the opinion that the Council would have quite enough to do if they managed the affairs of the city in the coming year as they should be managed, without taking on themselves other departments. The Commissioners were elected, and were just as responsible to the people as the aldermen were. Ald. Beattie had been charged with changing his mind since the last election on this question. But there were many matters that came up before the Commissioners as to remission of water rates, and they came up here as to taxes, but they were treated very differently by the Commissioners from here. They found here that Aldermen were prone to throw off taxes as far as they could for those in their ward. He knew, and those who had attended the meetings would agree with him, that all petitions were treated by the Commissioners on their merits and on their merits alone. There was only a comparatively small amount of back rates, and if the Council could show such a record on the taxes then it would be time to talk. The taxes of the last year had not yet been collected, and the very Aldermen who were moving in this matter were those who moved to have the time for the taxes extended two or three months.

Ald. Skinner—I deny it. I will not be impeached by the Mayor or any one else.

Mayor Hyman—"I had no allusion to you, Ald. Skinner. I said, and I repeat it, that the very Aldermen—some among them—who are moving in this matter, are those who moved to extend the time for collection of the taxes." If the by-law was submitted there was no doubt it would be carried for certain reasons. These men would be at the meetings to speak to them about it, but in a year the people would see differently from what they did now. The Aldermen might also change their opinions. Indeed, they had seen to-night how a little moral influence brought to bear, changed their opinions.

Ald. Becher—Bulldozed them.

Mayor Hyman concluded by saying that if it was decided to place the Water-works under control of the Council, the people would be sorry for it hereafter.

Ald. Stringer thought the vote should be taken. No charges had been made against the Board of Commissioners of extravagance; but they should let the people pronounce on the matter. If they voted against it he would be satisfied, but if they carried it and he was a member of the Council next year he would do his utmost to bring about a reform in the expenditure.

The motion was then carried, and the by-law passed.

### BOARD OF HEALTH.

By Ald. Cowan, chairman:—

1.—In compliance with the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1884, the City Council on the 19th May last appointed by by-law a Local Board of Health, consisting of the following ratepayers:—His Worship the Mayor, C. S. Hyman, Esq.; Aldermen James Cowan, Thomas C. Hewitt, Samuel Stringer, William Scarrow, Dr. James F. Niven, Dr. F. B. Wilkinson, William Saunders, Esq., and Thomas H. Tracy, City Engineer. Mr. Saunders declining to act, Dr. Henry Arnott was appointed in his place. Mr. William Bell, in addition to his other duties as License Inspector and Relief Officer, was re-elected Health Inspector, and with the time at his disposal has proved himself an efficient officer. Chief of Police Williams and Mr. William Platt, Inspector of Water, under the Water Commissioners, were appointed Assistant Health Officers, without remuneration; both of whom have rendered good service in sanitary work.

2.—Your Board appointed a sub-committee with power to engage the services of one assistant Health Officer and two constables, who began a thorough and systematic inspection, and for over two months continued their services, visiting almost every house, well, used and unused, cellars, privies cesspools and all outhouses, the result of which has been a general cleaning up all round, which is still going on.

3.—Your Board has much pleasure in reporting the general state of health within the city as good. There has been no epidemic. There was one case of small-pox thrown upon the city by another municipality, which caused no little alarm as well as expense. The patient was cured and discharged after several weeks' confinement. The sewers have been regularly flushed and kept clean, and all refuse and filth injurious to the public health have been removed outside the city limits.

4.—Your Board would recommend the removal of the wooden building used as a small-pox hospital, as being totally inadequate for the city's requirements, and should a visitation of Asiatic cholera take place, we are without any means to cope with it, the ground around the General Hospital being too limited to allow of the erection of the pavillion sheds necessary; besides, the district around the present hospital has of late almost doubled its population, consequently the necessity of removing it to a less inhabited place is more urgent.

5—Your Board has had under its consideration for some time the proper means of removal and disposal of the contents of vaults and closets, etc., and have thoroughly agreed that, considering our position with regard to the sewers, that the odorless system is the true one, and we are now in treaty with one of the Odorless Excavating Companies of the United States, to introduce a branch of their establishment in this city, which we consider will be a great boon to the citizens, as well as the means of securing a much better sanitary system.

6—The disposal of refuse has also engaged our attention, and the means we suggest is for the city either to purchase or rent a suitable place, where all such matter can be deposited, and such as can be burnt be incinerated. At present our system is vile, but the limited means at our disposal prevent your Board taking action on this point.

7—Your Board recommend the Council of next year to consider the advisability of appointing a Medical Health Officer, for the Health Inspector having so many other duties to perform, it is impossible for him to continue to discharge satisfactorily his functions as a sanitary officer.

8.—Your Board regret having exceeded the appropriation of $500 placed by the Council at its disposal, but, when it is known that nearly one-half of that amount was expended on the one case of small-pox, your Board has endeavored with the limited means at its disposal to discharge diligently the duties devolving upon them.

On motion the report was adopted, and the Clerk of the Board ordered to prepare a copy and forward it to the Provincial Board of Health.

Ald. Skinner moved, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the Chairman and members of the Board of Health for their services.

Ald. Becher seconded. Carried.

Ald. O'Meara spoke of destitute travellers who came into the city to stop over night. It would be very little to do something for them by giving them a cup of coffee, or something of that kind.

Ald. Birrell said the matter might be dealt with by the Mayor and Inspector.

Council adjourned for two weeks.